

Message Text

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S E C R E T CAIRO 19865

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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR PGOV EG US

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH SADAT--TWO REQUESTS

1. HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM HOUR-AND-A-HALF MEETING WITH SADAT IN ISMAILIA. VP MUBARAK WAS WITH HIM. SADAT SAID THAT HE HAS NOT YET FORMULATED HIS STRATEGY FOR CAMP DAVID TALKS, BUT GAVE ME A PREVIEW OF HIS THINKING TO BE CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT CARTER AND TO YOU. HE ASKED THAT I NOT PUT ANYTHING IN TELEGRAPHIC FORM, BUT THAT I ARRANGE TO CONVEY HIS THOUGHTS TO YOU AND THE PRESIDENT WHEN I ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON. I WILL DO SO.

2. SADAT DID MAKE TWO REQUESTS, WHICH YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT RIGHT AWAY:

A. FIRST, HE WOULD NOW LIKE TO ARRIVE IN THE U.S. ON SEPTEMBER 4, RPT SEPTEMBER 4. CAMP DAVID SUMMIT COULD THEN BEGIN ON SEPTEMBER 5 AS INITIALLY DISCUSSED WITH YOU. IF IT IS NO LONGER CONVENIENT FOR PRESIDENT CARTER TO BEGIN CAMP DAVID TALKS ON SEPTEMBER 5, AND THEY MUST BEGIN THE FOLLOWING DAY AS NOW PLANNED, SADAT WOULD STILL LIKE TO ARRIVE ON SEPTEMBER 4, GOING DIRECTLY FROM ANDREWS TO CAMP

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DAVID. HE DOES NOT WANT TO UNPACK TWICE IN TWO DAYS. (COMMENT: VP MUBARAK IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS SUGGESTION. MUBARAK POINTED OUT TO SADAT THAT BEGIN WILL ARRIVE ON SEPTEMBER 3, WHICH WILL ALLOW THE ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER ALMOST THREE DAYS BEFORE THE CAMP DAVID TALKS ARE SCHEDULED TO OPEN TO MOBILIZE PRO-ISRAELI LOBBY PRESSURES ON PRESIDENT CARTER. BY GOING TO THE U.S. A DAY EARLIER, MUBARAK POINTED

OUT, SADAT WOULD REDUCE BY ONE DAY BEGIN'S TIME TO MOBILIZE SUCH PRESSURES. SADAT BOUGHT THE IDEA.) ASKED WHETHER IN THE EVENT RAMADAN TURNS OUT TO HAVE 30 DAYS (INSTEAD OF 29) HE WOULD STILL WANT TO COME ON SEPTEMBER 4, SADAT REPLIED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. IF ABOVE IS AGREEABLE TO PRES. CARTER, SADAT ASKS THAT WE NOT ANNOUNCE SEPT 4 ARRIVAL DATE UNTIL A FEW DAYS BEFORE THAT DATE.

B. SADAT INDICATED THAT AT THE END OF THE CAMP DAVID TALKS, HOWEVER THEY TURN OUT, HE WOULD LIKE TO SPEND TWO DAYS IN WASHINGTON TO MEET WITH THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, PROMINENT EDITORS AND SOME OTHER JOURNALISTS. HE HOPES THAT THIS WILL BE CONVENIENT.

3. SADAT SAID THAT HE WANTS THE CAMP DAVID TALKS TO BE A "VICTORY" FOR PRESIDENT CARTER AND FOR HIM. HE PLANS TO DISCUSS HIS STRATEGY IN DETAIL WITH PRESIDENT CARTER WHEN THEY HAVE THEIR FIRST BILATERAL TALK.

4. FINALLY, SADAT GAVE ME A SIGNED LETTER FROM HIM TO MRS. LILLIAN CARTER INVITING HER TO VISIT EGYPT AT ANY TIME CONVENIENT TO HER. I WILL HANDCARRY THE LETTER TO WASHINGTON FOR DELIVERY. EILTS

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